



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

WILLIAM H. BEARDSLEY
ACTING COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT #VII.B.

To: Members of the State Board of Education

From: William H. Beardsley, Acting Commissioner*

Date: January 13, 2016

Subject: Major Capital School Construction Program; *Concept Approval Consideration*; RSU #19, for a new grade 5-12 school and a minor retrofit project for two PreK-4 schools

STATEMENT OF FACT

The RSU #19 Board of Directors requests that the State Board of Education grant Concept Approval for a new 5-12, 1200 student school and minor retrofits to two present junior high schools to provide housing for two PreK-4 schools with a combined enrollment of 700 students.

RSU #19 had two applications placed on the Approved Projects List of the 2010-2011 School Facilities Priority List Rating Cycle; An elementary proposal placed third on the list and the high school placed sixth.

This concept, if approved, will meet the school system's needs for both proposals. The district presently has two relatively new (1999) middle schools which will be converted into two PreK-4 schools of approximately 350 students each. Only minor retrofitting will be needed on each of the two schools.

This proposal will provide much needed appropriate academic space for all of the district's schools. It will eliminate many portable trailers at the present high school and close four older inefficient elementary schools.

The existing high school will be demolished and the site will become part of the athletic complex. The new facility is being designed to meet the Department of Education standards and all state and local agencies have been contacted and when necessary, documented approvals are on file. The project received State Board Education Site Approval on January 14, 2015.

This Concept Approval is being requested pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 20-A, Section 15905(1) and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

Project description provided by Ray Freve, Interim Superintendent

This comprehensive capital improvement project will prove to be more of an impact to RSU#19 than the birth of MSAD#48 in the 60's and Nokomis Regional High School.

The condition, design and utilization of public school facilities have a direct impact on students and staff and the quality of education and the vitality of all communities in the RSU. The consolidation of the RSU will assist us in overcoming challenges we currently face in providing equitable opportunities for all students and staff. The project will bring together and broaden the opportunities in this shared facility by providing them with numerous program efficiencies of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math

The needed space for programming and enhancement of the existing technology plan will add to the efforts of the RSU in developing life-long learners, and prepare them for the fast changing global economy. All schools will then have the benefit of being more learner centered, developmentally and age appropriate, accessible and safe environments for students and staff.

The RSU's facilities master plan of 2006 will become a reality, and should afford the residents of the communities the relief of a long standing financial burden of building operations.

1. Consolidate the delivery of student services which will eliminate unnecessary duplication of programs and services due to multiple sites.
2. The design will provide a comfortable physical environment that is accessible and safe, unlike our multi-entrance existing older facilities.
3. Provide all students and staff access to a gymnasium and a cafeteria without the need to travel by foot to a different building
4. Provide adequate spaces for small group and individual instruction
5. Provide equitable access to arts, technology and library-media for all students and staff
6. Permit greater flexibility for creative and collaborative instructional practices

We envision this new facility to be conservative in nature and inviting to students, staff, parents and the communities it will serve. It will support our Mission to Inspire every student, Instill a motivation for learning and Insure they become contributing citizens. We look forward to this school in our RSU.

Page -3-

Exhibit#VII.B.

Concept Approval Consideration

RSU #19 new 5-12 school & a minor retrofit for two PreK-4 schools

Date: January 13, 2016

Project Information

Project: #3 Newport Elementary School and #6 Nokomis High School

Interim Superintendent: Ray Freve

Principal: Mary Nadeau

Architect: Oak Point Associates

Total Purchase Price of Land: \$0.

School(s) to be closed: St. Albans Consolidated, Hartland Consolidated, Corinna Elementary and Newport Elementary.

Project Budget Information

Total Project Cost: \$67,997,549

Local Only (no State participation): \$250,000

Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$67,747,549

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION

The Acting Commissioner of the Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education grant Concept Approval to RSU #19 for a new 5-12 School in Newport and minor retrofits to two present Junior High Schools to make them PreK-4 schools and to also approve the Concept Budget as presented.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

On January 4, 2016, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Concept Approval to RSU #19 for a new 5-12 School in Newport and minor retrofits to two present Junior High Schools to make them PreK-4 schools and to also approve the Concept Budget as presented provided St. Albans Consolidated, Hartland Consolidated, Corinna Elementary and Newport Elementary close upon project completion.

*Prepared by the Division of School Facilities